Trade between India and Taiwan

3141. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken by Government to promote trade between India and Taiwan;

(b) whether the NGO's are proposed to be involved in this purpose;

(c) what are the other measures proposed to be adopted by Government for promoting trade between both the countries; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d) Trade with Taiwan is being promoted by various means innluding exchange of delegations, exchange of trade related information between the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industries and the counterpart Taiwanese organisation, amongst others. It is learnt that a non-official organization, the India-Taipei Association, intends to set up an office in Taipei to promote trade and economic links between the two business communities. The India Taiwan Joint Business Cooperation Committee which was established in 1992 has also been meeting regularly.

Import of toxic substances

3142. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that toxic substances such as plastic waste, lead ash and scrap betteries are being imported from western countries by certain industrial and business houses exposing our country to serious health hazards;

(b) if so, what are the names of these importers and quantity imported of these items; and

(c) what steps are beng taken to ban such impots?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) Keeping in view the likely hazads posed by the import of such wastes the current Export and Import Policy has included hazardous wastes in the 'Negative List of Imports'. Further, Import of all types of plastic wastes (except PET bottle waste) is not permitted except against a licence.

News item concerning threat of dumping

3143. SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA:

SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item captioned "India faces threat of dumping "WTO" which appeared in 'The Hindustan Times' dated the 30th March, 1995; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It appears that an opinion has been expressed that India may face the threat of dumping due to reduction of import duties. Provisions exist under the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 and the Customs (Identification, Assessment and Collection of Anti-dumping Duty on dumped articles and for determination of Injury) Rules, 1995 by which